

**Official Newsletter
of the Global Manufacturing
Research Group**

Please note:

A different country's translation of our organization's name will appear on each new Gazette:

(Norwegian in honour of our GMRG 2016 Norwegian hosts)

GLOBAL AVIS

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Inside this issue:	pg.
The President's Corner	1-2
The President Elect's Corner	1
The Director's Corner	3
The 2016 GMRG Meeting	4
The GMRG VI Survey	5-6
Odds and Ends	6

Congratulations to Damien Power, Robert Klassen, Thomas J. Kull and Dayna Simpson on winning the first GLOBE Robert J. House Best Research Paper Award last year. Here is the citation:
"Power, D.J., Klassen, R., Kull, T. and Simpson, D. (2015) "Competitive Goals and Plant Investment in Environment and Safety Practices: Moderating Effect of National Culture", *Decision Sciences* Vol. 46, No. 1, pp. 63-100."

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The President's Corner – Prakash Singh

Dear GMRGers-

There are a number of developments relating to GMRG that I wish to inform you about.

It is with great delight that I inform you that Frank Wiengarten has been unanimously selected by the Executive Board as the President-Elect of the GMRG for the period 2016-2017.

Frank has been part of the GMRG family for some years, has collected data in several rounds, and has been a prolific author of research papers based on GMRG datasets. Frank will take up the presidency in June 2016 and will no doubt provide strong leadership that will take GMRG from strength to strength.

The Executive Board considered a number of

options for its future operations at its last meeting in Melbourne. It considered the possibility of affiliating itself, either formally or informally, with institutions such as POMs, DSI or EurOMA.

There are pros and cons to this option. Ultimately, the Executive Board took the decision that GMRG would continue to remain an independent body into the future.

(More information on page 2)

The President Elect's Corner – Frank Wiengarten

Dear all,

First of all a delayed happy new 2016.

I hope you all had a great start into the new year. This year I am taking over as the president elect for our research group.

Prakash did such a wonderful job and I am excited and looking forward towards the

opportunities and challenges of this role.

We are in the middle of organizing our next meeting in Trondheim, Norway and I believe that we have lots important and interesting topics that need to be discussed.

Tom is moving along with organizing the de-

velopment of our survey and there are additional methodological issues that we might have an opportunity to discuss in Trondheim.

Anyhow I hope you can make it to our meeting in June.

Take care,
Frank



The President's Corner – Prakash Singh (Cont'd)

In order to ensure that GMRG remains sustainable and remains in existence long into the future, a number of changes to its governance structure were approved. These include modifying the roles of some of the Vice-Presidents. Specifically, we will have Vice-Presidents with portfolio responsibility for membership services, study design & data management, and publicity & communication. As a result of these changes, it is now possible for members to consider volunteering for these roles. If you are interested in contributing to GMRG through any of these formal roles, please contact myself, Frank, Clay, or any other current Executive Board members.

Work continues to progress with the development of GMRG 6th Edition data collection instrument. Led by Tom Kull, a working party consisting of Chwen Sheu, Frank Wiengarten, Ike Ehie, Iuri Gavronski, and myself developed broad parameters for the design of the instrument. As per Tom's note on this issue of the Gazette, volunteers are sought to participate in the development of this instrument.

GMRG members and collaborators continue to publish research articles in some of the best journals in business, management and engineering fields. Some of these efforts have resulted in winning prestigious prizes. For example, Damien Power, Rob Klassen, Tom Kull, and Dayna Simpson were awarded the inaugural GLOBE Robert J. House Best Research Paper Award for 2015 for the paper "Competitive Goals and Plant Investment in Environment and Safety Practices: Moderating Effect of National Culture" published in *Decision Sciences* (Vol.46, No.1, pp.63-100). This has promoted GMRG to the IB research community. Congratulations to Damien, Rob, Tom and Dayna for this fantastic outcome. Please let us know if you are aware of members winning awards – we would like to inform others of these important achievements.

The next meeting of the GMRG will take place in Norway from 17 to 18 June 2016. This will be in conjunction with the EurOMA conference. Frank Wiengarten will host this meeting as incoming president. Frank will be sending more details about the meeting, as we get closer to date. It is expected that the new data collection instrument will be the major item on the agenda.

It has been an eventful year so far with a lot of interesting developments taking place and members continuing to do great things as far as research collaboration is concerned. With plans now in place to put GMRG into a strong and sustainable future form, I am confident that the group will go from strength to strength. Let's do all we can in our powers, individually and collectively, to ensure that it happens.

Kind regards,
Prakash J. Singh
GMRG President (2015-16)
University of Melbourne, Australia.



(GMRG meeting in Melbourne, June 2015)



The Director's Corner – Clay Whybark

Hi there folks. It's been a while since we have gotten together, but things are happening for GMRG. We have two great opportunities to get together this year. The first is June 17-18 in Trondheim, Norway, where our meeting will be held in conjunction with the EurOMA meeting, June 17-22. For information on Trondheim and the EurOMA meeting go to <http://www.euroma2016.org/>. The GMRG meeting is being organized by Frank Wiengarten (frank.wiengarten@esade.edu) and more about it is in this edition of the Global Gazette.

The second opportunity is September 6-10 in Havana, Cuba at the 5th World Conference on Production and Operations Management in which we will have a GMRG track. P&OM, EurOMA and JOMSA are jointly organizing the conference. In the past the World Conferences in P&OM have been spectacular events and marvelous opportunities for global networking. We are fortunate to have a track in the program and the opportunity to present our work against a backdrop that underscores the importance of global research. So make plans to submit your papers for the conference. For more details see http://www.poms.org/_World%20Conference-P&OM%20Havana%202016-%201st%20announcements%20.pdf.

Things are moving forward in the organizational area. Thanks to Prakash Singh and other officers, the groundwork is being laid for the future of the Global Manufacturing Research Group. Plans are being made for taking a longer view for providing leadership for the group, seeking out those persons who would like to be involved in leadership, assuring support for the development of future surveys (and other research initiatives), soliciting potential sites for future workshops, and studying other initiatives to assure the continuity of the organization. You can be involved in these activities, and others that would help GMRG.

Here are some of the ways you can be involved:

- * Help increase our contacts. Send me (clay_whybark@unc.edu) the names and e-mail addresses of people who you would like to receive the Global Gazette. They could be some of your local colleagues or international collaborators. Don't say no for them, just let them decide.
- * Help us identify potential future leaders for GMRG. If you have wondered why someone (or yourself) has not had a leadership role with us, please pass the name and e-mail address on to Prakash Singh (pjsingh@unimelb.edu.au).
- * Help us update the publication list on our webpage. Send your GMRG articles, books, notes and other material to Chwen Sheu (csheu@ksu.edu). We know that there are more recent publications than those that are currently listed.
- * Consider hosting a future GMRG meeting. It doesn't take a lot of funds or huge facility to qualify. If you are interested, send information on the venue and any other relevant data to Dae-Soo Kim (kimd@korea.ac.kr) for consideration.
- * Volunteer to edit the next GMRG book. Elsevier published the first, "Global Manufacturing Practices" edited by Whybark and Vastag, in 1993. It is time to pull together some of the more recent studies, methodologies and observations for publication. Let Prakash or me know if you are interested.

I look forward to seeing you soon and Mom says "Hi."
Clay



The GMRG Meeting, 17-18 June 2016, Trondheim, Norway

The GMRG meeting will be held in Trondheim, Norway from 17th thru 18th June. As proposed both days will be full days of meeting. The GMRG meeting will be attached to this year's EUROMA in Trondheim.

The location is the venue of the EUROMA conference that continues to June 22nd. For more information on the EurOMA conference, see www.euroma2016.org The venue is the NTNU Gloschaugen Campus about 15 minutes from downtown.

Hotels are proposed and selected by the EUROMA committee and on their website. The GMRG Conference fee is \$200 dollars and includes coffee breaks and dinner for one evening.



The program for the meeting is being developed. On the agenda will be discussions on the next round of data collection, future governance structure of GMRG, workshops on papers that can be developed from the GMRG dataset, etc. You will have opportunities to form teams of international collaborators and plan analyses and paper writing projects! As usual, there will be ample opportunities to socialise, engage, interact and network with other members. We also expect a good number of local academics to attend.

Please don't hesitate to contact me (frank.wiengarten@esade.edu) if you need more information . **IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO ATTEND THE MEETING, PLEASE REGISTER ON THE WEB AT: <http://www.gmr.org>.**

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting in June!



To: GMRG Members

From: GMRG-6 Steering Committee

Subject: GMRG-6 Initiative Call-for-Proposals

We are excited to be launching this call-for-proposals to our GMRG members with a deadline of March 15th, 2016. We are calling for proposals from GMRG members wishing to lead one of the three GMRG-6 “modules” for our next data collection initiative.

In 2015, we decided the structure of GMRG-6 will be similar to past data collection initiatives, with a mandatory “core” section followed by three optional “modules”. The “core” section will be most similar in content from the past, capturing the essential demographics that characterize manufacturing facilities and allowing for comparisons to past GMRG initiatives.

In contrast, the optional “modules” are to be more forward-looking, capturing data related to contemporary questions that are not only important to managers but also crucial for furthering knowledge of manufacturing-specific phenomena. The three broad areas we wish the GMRG-6 “modules” to cover are not themselves new, but instead are general areas of manufacturing research still fertile for interesting research. These areas are given here along with rough definitions –

1. Innovation: Invention and implementation of new products and/or processes
2. Supply chain: Intra- and inter-firm processes of production and distribution
3. Sustainability: Indefinite production without irreparable environmental, social, or economic effects

At the recent DSI conference, the committee decided to ask for proposals from those GMRG members interested in leading one of these three modules to be submitted before March 15th, 2016 with the following minimum information:

1. A description of one or more research questions to be answered through the data collection instrument for that module.
2. A literature-grounded explanation for why the research question(s) would be of interest to the field of operations management (both for theory and practice).
3. The possible theoretical perspective(s) to be used for guidance in answering the research question(s). An accompanying draft framework/model is encouraged.
4. A description of how the instrument will be developed so as to meet or exceed the expectations of our top operations management journals.

(More information on page 6)



The GMRG VI Survey – (Cont'd)

Please email your proposals to Thomas Kull (Thomas.kull@asu.edu) before the deadline to assure our full consideration. The committee will plan to review and select proposals by April, 2016 and to work with those accepted to prepare draft instrument outlines for the upcoming GMRG meeting in June.

Thank you for your continued interest and enthusiasm with GMRG and our mission to be “a multi-national community of researchers dedicated to the study and improvement of manufacturing supply chains worldwide.”

Sincerely,

GMRG-6 Steering Committee

VISION STATEMENT:

The Global Manufacturing Research Group (GMRG) is a multi-national community of researchers dedicated to the study and improvement of manufacturing supply chains worldwide. Through systematic study and research throughout the world, the GMRG aims to improve manufacturing supply chains through the development of theory and dissemination of results. By sharing ideas, results, and concepts with research colleagues and manufacturing executives around the globe, the GMRG serves to strengthen the linkage between research and practice.

**WE ARE ON
THE WEB !**

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GMRG.org

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